

11. (Once amended) A recombinant DNA molecule deposited with the ATCC as ATCC NO 97999.

Add the following claims:

19. An isolated DNA fragment encoding UCP3_L of SEQ ID NO:4.

20. The DNA fragment of claim 19 which originates from human skeletal muscle.

21. An isolated DNA fragment having a sequence homologous to the DNA nucleotide sequence of claim 19.

22. A host cell comprising the DNA fragment of claim 19.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the page number "-22-" at the top of the page containing the Abstract of the Disclosure.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-18 were pending in this application.

Claims 3-6 and 12-18 have been deleted.

Claims 1 and 7-11 have been amended.

Claims 19-22 have been added

Claims 1, 7-11 and 19-22 are present in the application.

REMARKS


This Preliminary Amendment is presented to eliminate multiple dependencies and to place the claims in better conformance with U.S. practice.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **"Version with markings to show changes made."**

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits the Application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests early notice to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with markings to show changes made

1. (Once amended) An isolated DNA fragment[, characterized in that it contains] comprising the nucleotide sequence [depicted in] of SEQ ID NO:3[, the said DNA fragment coding for an uncoupling protein (UCP3_L) which is characterized by the amino acid sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO 4, or in that it contains a homologous sequence coding for the same amino acid sequence].

7. (Once amended) A [R]recombinant DNA fragment[, characterized in that it comprises] comprising a DNA sequence according to claim 1 [Claims 1, 2, 3 or 4, or one of their homologous sequences].

8. (Once amended) [DNA molecule, characterized in that it comprises a] A cloning vector [into which] comprising a DNA sequence according to [one of C]claim[s] 1 [to 4 or 7 is inserted].

9. (Once amended) [DNA molecule according to claim 8, characterized in that t]The cloning vector of claim 8, wherein the cloning vector is a plasmid or phage.

10. (Once amended) [Recombinant DNA molecule according to] The cloning vector of Claim 9, [characterized in that it consists of the nucleotide sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO 3, inserted into the vector] wherein the vector is a pBluescript SK⁻ vector.

11. (Once amended) A [R]recombinant DNA molecule [according to Claim 10,] deposited with the ATCC as ATCC [(JNO 97999)].

Add the following claims:

19. An isolated DNA fragment encoding UCP3_L of SEQ ID NO:4.

20. The DNA fragment of claim 19 which originates from human skeletal muscle.

21. An isolated DNA fragment having a sequence homologous to the DNA nucleotide sequence of claim 19.

22. A host cell comprising the DNA fragment of claim 19.